

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) Video decoder apparatus for decoding input video data encoded in a plurality of encoding formats, comprising:

a first processor for decoding MPEG compatible data identified by a first data identifier to provide a first decoded video output;

a second processor for decoding data encoded in an Internet compatible data format, said Internet data being identified by a second data identifier to provide a second decoded video output; and

a display processor for formatting said first and second decoded video outputs for display as a composite video image wherein

the proportion of said video image contributed by said first and second decoded outputs is variable as a percentage specified by an instruction, and said first and second data identifiers are derived from program map information associating said Internet data with video program content represented by said first decoded video output.

2. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said first and second processors decode data separated using said first and second data identifiers from a single composite input datastream.

3. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said first processor decompresses MPEG compatible compressed data, and

said decompressed data is synchronized with second decoded video output using timing data in said MPEG compatible data.

4. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

[said second decoded video output represents an index of web page information], wherein said program map forms a composite program map comprising information used for identifying packet identifiers associated with said MPEG compatible data and packet identifiers associated with said Internet data.

5. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the format of said Internet compatible data includes data encoded in at least one of a) TCP/IP format, b) HTML format, c) Java™ format, and d) ActiveX™ format.

6. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said proportion of said video image contributed by said first decoded output is variable between 0 and 100%.

7. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said display processor stores said composite video image in a pixel memory.

8. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said display processor formats said first and second decoded outputs as separate images within said composite video image and said proportion of said composite video image contributed by said first and second decoded outputs is variable in response to at least one of [(a) User selection, (b)] formatting data received in said input video data, and (c) pre-programmed processor instruction.]

9. (Currently Amended) A method for decoding image representative input video data encoded in a plurality of encoding formats, comprising the steps of:

deriving first and second data identifiers from program map information associating Internet data with video program content within said input video data;

identifying MPEG compatible first image representative data using said first data identifier;

identifying second image representative data encoded in an Internet compatible data format using said second data identifier;

decoding said identified first image representative data using a first MPEG data decoding method to provide a first decoded output;

decoding said identified second image representative data using a second Internet data decoding method to provide a second decoded output; and

formatting said first and second decoded outputs for display as a composite video image wherein the proportion of said video image contributed by said first and second decoded outputs is variable,

wherein said first and second image representative data is separated from a single composite input datastream and said Internet data is compatible with a HTML data format.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 9, [further including the step of:

separating said first and second image representative data from a single composite input datastream.]

wherein said datastream includes data for displaying a requested web page, said datastream being unidirectional.

11. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 9, including the step of determining whether a User is authorized to access said first image representative data and wherein

said step of decoding said first image representative data occurs in response to said authorization.

12. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 11, including the step of decrypting said first image representative data in response to said User authorization.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 9, including the steps of receiving program guide information and receiving web page information for display, said received web page information being selected from said received program guide information.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 9, including the step of receiving an index of web page information and including the step of receiving said second image representative data selected from said index.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 9, including the step of decompressing MPEG compatible compressed first image representative data to provide said first decoded output.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 9, including the step of decoding second image representative data formatted in at least one of a) TCP/IP format, b) HTML format, c) Java™ format, and d) ActiveX™ format.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 9, including the step of varying said proportion of said video image contributed by said first decoded output in response to at least one of (a) User selection, (b) formatting data received in said input video data, and (c) pre-programmed processor instruction.

18. (Original) A method for decoding image representative input video data encoded in an Internet compatible data format, comprising the steps of:

identifying first image representative data encoded in an Internet compatible data format using a first data identifier;

decoding said identified first image representative data using an Internet data decoding method to provide an index of web page information associated with video program content in said input video data;

identifying second image representative data encoded in an Internet compatible data format using a second data identifier, said second image representative data representing a web page selected from said index of web page information;

decoding said identified second image representative data using said Internet data decoding method to provide said selected web page; and
formatting said selected web page for display.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, including the step of
deriving first and second data identifiers from program map information associating said selected web page with said index of web page information.

20. (New Claim) A method according to claim 1, wherein
said percentage is determined by an external command designating
the percentage of the composite image between said decoded MPEG compatible
data and said Internet data.